

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE****In The Claims:**

1. (Amended) In an adaptive speed control system for a vehicle, a method for controlling vehicle deceleration, the method comprising:

determining a speed of the vehicle; and

setting a maximum allowed vehicle deceleration based on the vehicle speed, wherein the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration is continuously variable.

6. (Amended) The method of claim [5] 1 wherein the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration [is capable of varying] varies in a range between about 0.2 g and about 0.3 g.

9. (Amended) In an adaptive speed control system for a vehicle, a system for controlling vehicle deceleration, the system comprising:

a receiver for receiving an input signal indicative of a speed of the vehicle; and

a controller for setting a maximum allowed vehicle deceleration based on the vehicle speed, wherein the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration is continuously variable.

11. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 9 wherein, to set the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration, the controller is [further capable of decreasing] operative to decrease the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration as the vehicle speed increases.

12. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 9 wherein, to set the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration, the controller is [further capable of increasing] operative to increase the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration as the vehicle speed decreases.

14. (Amended) The system of claim [13] 9 wherein the maximum allowed vehicle deceleration [is capable of varying] varies in a range between about 0.2 g and about 0.3 g.